

Madison River Planning Questionnaire

Survey Monkey, web based survey

Surveys Collected between Mid
January and Late March 2012

Outreach

- Press releases announcing scoping meetings and requesting public input
 - January 19, 2012
 - Feb 13, 2012
- ~35,000 emails sent to people who purchases licenses in 2011
- Four scoping meetings:
 - Ennis, February 15
 - Bozeman February 16
 - West Yellowstone February 28,
 - Whitehall March 1

Survey Monkey Questions

- What do you like the MOST about recreating on the Madison River (please list your TOP 3)? Please tell us what aspects of recreation are working well and what you would like to see stay the same on the Madison River
- What do you like the LEAST about recreating on the Madison River (please list your TOP 3)? Please tell us what is NOT working well and the aspects of recreation you would like to see changed on the Madison River
- What are the TOP 3 Recreation Management Changes you think FWP should make to address any concerns you have about recreation on the Madison River
- Types of Recreation conducted on Madison River
- Demographic Information (resident, guide/outfitter, property owner, economic tie, etc.)
- Additional comments

Survey Monkey Results

- ~1200 surveys initiated
- 286 surveys were blank
- 325 surveys were incomplete or partially filled out

Survey Respondent Demographics

- Resident
 - **71% Resident** **28% Non-resident**
- Outfitter/Guide
 - **Yes 10%** **No 90%**
- Madison Outfitter/Guide
 - **Yes 6%** **No 94%**
- Landowner
 - **Yes 8%** **No 92%**
- Business Interest
 - **Yes 16%** **No 84%**

Survey Respondent Uses of Madison River

(Uses are not exclusive)

- Bank/Wade Angler
 - 77% Yes 23% No
- Float Angler
 - 68% Yes 32% No
- Non-angling Floater (tuber)
 - 71% Yes 29% No
- Camping
 - 82% Yes 18% No
- Non-angling FAS use
 - 66% Yes 34% No

Survey Responses

- Issue: Crowding on River
 - 306 specifically addressed crowding (33% of filled out surveys; 66% did not address issue)
 - 88% of these surveys indicated that crowding was a problem
 - 61% general crowding, 10% upper river, 25% lower river, 4% both upper and lower
 - 12% specifically indicated that crowding was not a problem

Survey Responses Cont.

- Issue: No Changes in Management
 - 505 respondents directly addressed this issue (55% of filled out surveys; 45% did not address issue)
 - 205 (40%) indicated that no changes in management were needed
 - 300 (60%) indicated that management changes were needed

Survey Responses Cont

- Issue: Crowding at Accesses
- 143 Respondents directly addressed this issue
- 96% indicated that crowding was an issue at Access sites (general 28%, upper 4%, lower 66%, both upper and lower 2%)
- 4% indicated that crowding at access sites was not an issue

Survey Responses Cont.

- Issue: Too Many Tubers/Recreation Floaters
- 97 Respondents directly addressed this issue
- 87 (90%) indicated that there were too many tubers/ recreational floaters
- 10 (10%) indicated that there were not too many tubers/recreational floaters

Survey Results Cont.

- Issue: Too much commercial use
- 92 Respondents directly addressed this issue
- 86% indicated that there was too much commercial use
- 14% indicated that there was not too much commercial use

Survey Results Cont.

- Issue: Limit Commercial Use/Launches per Day
 - 135 Respondents directly addressed this issue
 - 100 (74%) indicated that commercial use should be limited
 - 35 (26%) indicated that commercial use should not be limited

Survey Results Cont.

- Issue: Limit Tuber/Recreational Floaters
- 157 respondents directly addressed this issue
- 78 (50%) indicated that tubers and recreational floaters should be limited
- 79 (50%) indicated that tubers and recreational floaters should not be limited

Survey Results Cont.

- Issue: Limit non-resident use
- 48 respondents addressed this issue
- 26 (54%) indicated that non-resident use should be limited
- 22(46%) indicated that non-resident use should **not** be limited

Survey Responses Cont.

- Issue: Initiated Citizens Day
- 43 respondents directly addressed this issue
- 31 (72%) were in support of initiating a Citizens Day
- 12 (28%) were not in support of initiating a Citizens Day

Survey Results Cont.

- Issue: Commercial Fees/Permits
- 32 Respondents addressed this issue directly
- 25(78%) indicated the need for commercial fees or permits
- 7 (22%) indicated that commercial fees or permits were not needed

Survey Responses Cont.

- Issue: Need for non-commercial fees or permits
- 107 respondents directly addressed this issue
- 69 (64%) indicated that non-commercial fees or permits were needed
- 36 (36%) indicated that non-commercial fees or permits were not needed

Survey Results Cont.

- Issue: Limit Number of Outfitters
- 39 respondents directly addressed this issue
- 33 (85%) indicated that the number of outfitters should be limited
- 6 (15%) indicated that the number of outfitters should not be limited

Survey Results Cont.

- Issue: Wade only sections
- 92 respondents addressed this issue
- 62 (67%) indicated that wade only sections should be maintained
 - Of these 20% general, 37% both section, 30% lower section, 13% upper section
- 30 (33%) indicated that wade only sections should not be maintained
 - Of these 35% general, 29% both sections, 11% lower section, 24% upper section

Survey Results Cont.

- Issue: Spring Closures
- 16 respondents directly addressed this issue
- 10 (63%) indicated that spring closures should be eliminated
- 6 (37%) indicated that spring closures should not be eliminated

Survey Results Cont.

- Issue: Recreational Conflicts Noted
- 127 respondents directly addressed recreational conflicts
 - 17% no conflicts noted (not a problem)
 - 13% with other anglers
 - 15% with guides and outfitters
 - 6% with landowners
 - 22% with multiple groups
 - 6% with other users
 - 20% with tubers/floating recreationists

Summary of Comments

- **Trash issues (117)**
 - No glass (17)
 - Plastic bag ban (1)
 - Provide recycling (7)
- **Education**
 - Education to address issues (9)
 - Educate on angler etiquette (5)
- **Fishing Regulations**
 - Year round angling, eliminate spring fishing closure (7)
 - Keep spring fishing closure(3)
 - Harvest or gear restrictions (12)
 - Eliminate use of barbed hooks, treble hooks, lead (3)

Summary of Comments, Cont.

- **Access issues**
 - Parking problems (more parking) 62
 - Limit parking (1)
 - Increased access for wade or walk in angling (15)
 - More access general (52)
 - More float opportunity (6)
 - No boats on upper wade section (16)
 - Continue to allow boats on wade-fish-only section (4)
 - Ban floating in Beartrap Canyon (2)
 - Keep or increase wade only sections (6)
 - Allow float fishing in upper wade only section by permit (1)
 - Remove ramp at Canaday (1)
 - No boats on lower wade section (1)
 - Allow boats on lower wade section (2)
 - Do not provide more access between Greycliff and I 90 (3)
 - Do provide access between Greycliff and 1 90 (1)
 - Float fish from 3 dollar bridge downstream (1)
 - Provide more Beartrap floating permits (1)
 - Maintain boat/wade areas (2)

Summary of Comments, Cont.

- **Alcohol issues (78)**
 - Drunk driving (4)
- **Camping**
 - More camping (16)
 - Reservation system, float camping and free camping (1 each)
 - No camping (1)
- **Fishing Access Sites**
 - More or improved amenities (shade, picnic, restrooms, roads, etc) (27)
 - Do not provide more amenities (2)
 - No pavement at FASs (4)
 - Remove pavement at BLM FAS Sites (1)
 - Better site maintenance (1)
 - Better signs (7)
 - Bad signs (4)

Summary of Comments, Cont.

- **Tuber Issues**

- Limit tubers (8)
- Tuber conflicts (2)
- Provide shuttle service for tubers (20)
- Car pooling (6)
- Close fishing between Warm Springs and Blacks Ford during summer (2)
- Provide more tuber access (1)
- Limit tuber time within day (1)
- Segregate tuber/angler times (5)
- Institute tuber fee, license or permit (18)

- **Enforcement**

- More enforcement (62)
- Less guide checks (1)
- Lower enforcement profile (2)

Summary of Comments, Cont.

- **Outfitters/Guides**

- Eliminate non-resident (Idaho) guide/outfitter use (13)
- Cap Outfitters (2)
 - Don't cap outfitters (1)
- Limit number of outfitter days/commercial use (15)
- Rotate Outfitter closed section (4)
- Residents day (4)
- Require log books for commercial use (1)
- Manage recreation like Beaverhead and Big Hole (4)
- Too much outfitter paperwork (1)
- Keep outfitting/commercial use limited (1)
- No commercial limits, fees, or permits (1)
- Use historical use as basis for allocating outfitting days, if outfitting is limited (1)
- Let outfitters/guides have more influence on management (1)

Summary of Comments, Cont.

- **Habitat/Resource**
 - Address cattle, noxious weeds, pelicans (5)
 - Maintain or improve habitat (2)
 - Prevent invasive species (2)
 - Dam repair, river temp issues (30)
 - Preserve water rights (2)
 - Keep fish population healthy (1)
 - Close fishery in hot time periods (1)
 - Provide big fish and lots of them (1)
 - River is over used and over fished (1)
 - Prevent riverside development (set backs, etc). 12
- **Restrict Users**
 - Permit fee for Non-resident boats (1)
 - Limit or stagger launches per day (5)
 - Limit boats (20)
 - Crowd problems (2)
 - Limit number of people (2)

Summary of Comments, Cont.

- **Landowners**
 - Landowner problems (6)
 - Fence issues (2)
 - Limit private land access (1)
- **Misc**
 - Provide bike racks (1)
 - Ban smoking (1)
 - Remove hazard bridge (1)
 - Reduce speed limit in Beartrap (3)
 - Traffic problems (7)
 - Unfriendly camp hosts (1)
 - Prevent boats from sitting in a fishing hole (1)
 - Dogs (3)
 - Bad behavior (3)
 - Clean up day 5
 - Consider nonresident landowners as residents (1)

Summary of Comments, Cont.

- **General Plan Comments**
 - Evaluate economic impact of any recreation restrictions (1)
 - Stop management plan (1)
 - River is over regulated now (1)
 - FWP focus on biology not social issues (1)
 - Don't change anything (25)
 - Forget about plan crowding it will take care of itself (1)
 - Limit tuber section only, not the rest of the river (1)